(b) whether it is also a fact that Oil Marketing Companies (OMCs) would introduce marking of potential adulterants at refineries/manufacturing units and import locations all over the country; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI MURLI DEORA): (a) to (c) The public sector oil marketing companies (OMCs) propose to implement the Market System in Kerosene all over the country by 1st October 2006. Under the proposed system, the marker will be dosed in kerosene at the terminals/depots of OMCs. Samples of diesel and petrol would be drawn to detect whether the same have been adulterated with the marked kerosene. In case of detection, necessary punitive action would be taken by the OMCs.

Inefficient Labour Force in Banks

*234. SHRI B.K. HARIPRASAD: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the recently released Asian Banking Outlook-2006 by Moody's Investor Service has commented on the inflexible and inefficient labour force in Indian Public Sector Banks blunting their competitive edge with private sector banks;

(b) whether during the frequent wage revision negotiations with the bank employee unions, the Indian Banks Association has even attempted to link remunerative package to productivity and efficiency;

(c) whether despite this low work output, Government are considering to introduce Employees' Stock Option Schemes for the bank employees; and

(d) if so, the rationale and details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a) Moody's Investors Service in its report relating to the Asia Banking Outlook, 2006 (June 2006) while commenting on the rating outlook for India has made a referece to certain aspects of the labour force that, according to that report, hampers the competitiveness of Government owned Banks.

(b) IBA has reported that though attempts are made by it to link remunerative package to performance, productivity and efficiency, the same, however, could not be translated into agreement.

(c) No such proposal is under consideration for the present.

(d) Does not arise.

Heavy Industries in Assam

*235. SHRI DWIJENDRA NATH SHARMAH: Will the Minister of HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES be pleased to state:

(a) The details of heavy industries that have been set up in the North Eastern Region particularly in the State of Assam during the liberalization policy period; and

(b) The steps taken by Government to grant financial allocation to heavy industries set up in NER?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF HEAVY INDUSTRY MINISTRY OF HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES (SHRIMATI KANTI SINGH): (a) and (b) There is no formal classification of Industry as "heavy". In so far as the Department of Heavy Industry (DHI) is concerned, no new Public Sector Enterprise has been set up in the North Eastern Region particularly in the State of Assam since the liberalization started in the year 1991. However, there are existing units under DHI namely, Andrew Yule & Co., Hindustan Paper Corporation Ltd., Nagaland Pulp & Paper Mills Ltd. and Cement Corporation of India Ltd. which are located or have their units in the North Eastern region. The Government are providing budgetary support to some of the units for their capital investment programmes/working capital needs.

Pench Mega Project in Chhindwada

†*236. SHRIMATI MAYA SINGH:
MISS ANUSUIYA UIKEY:

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have accorded its sanction for investing in Pench mega Project in Chhindwada district of Madhya Pradesh;

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.